

C O P Y.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Department of External Territories.

Welfare Bureau,
3rd. Floor, 40 King St.,
Sydney

24th. October, 1945.

A.R. LETTER.

Mr. A.G. Tait,
Boys' High School,
TIMARU, NEW ZEALAND.

Dear Mr. Tait,

With regard to your brother, Ivan Tait, who was reported missing in New Guinea, it is with deep regret that I have to inform you, on behalf of the Minister of External Territories, that reports have been received from Prisoners of War who were recently released from Internment to the effect that Mr. Tait died at the Japanese Military Encampment Hospital, Rabaul, in May, 1942, following an operation for hernia performed by a Japanese doctor in the presence of Dr. R.W. Cooper, an Administration Medical Officer.

Realising your great anxiety over the long period since the fall of Rabaul and the shock and grief this announcement will cause you, it is thought preferable to notify you by letter rather than by telegraph.

With the profound sympathy of the Minister for External Territories.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A.J. Gaslin.

Officer in charge

WELFARE BUREAU.

*Copy of letter received
27th Oct.
W.F.*